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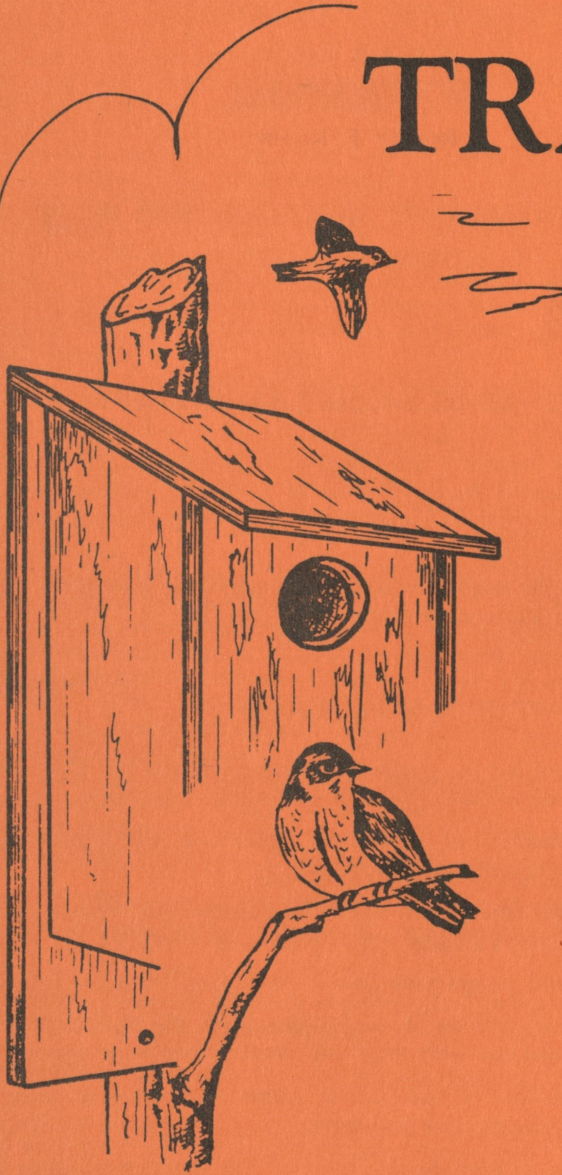
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PEQUOT

OCT. 12 1963

STACKS

TRAILS



Published Quarterly by the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Incorporated
MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT

The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary

INCORPORATED
MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT

CURATOR

ROBERT F. KUNZ

A CONSERVATION PROGRAM OF EDUCATION AND RECREATION FOR
CHILDREN AND ADULTS

WHAT IS THE PEQUOT-SEPOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY?

The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary is a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the state of Connecticut for the purpose of promoting a community program of conservation education. The program includes work for the preservation and restoration of our natural resources.

It is a unique community enterprise in that it is supported entirely by interested citizens through memberships and contributions.

THE PEQUOT-SEPOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY:

Maintains 125 acres of land for the purpose of teaching others the ways and values of protection and restoration of our birds, wildlife and other natural resources.

Maintains a trailside museum and a series of nature trails which tell the story of nature in a most instructive and fascinating manner.

In co-operation with the schools, girl scouts, boy scouts, community centers and other youth organizations, promotes a program of conservation education for children.

Conducts a year around program of field trips and activities for members.

Operates a bird-banding station in conjunction with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and co-operates with state and local conservation agencies.

Through personal guidance of the Curator, serves as a source of information and help on local and national conservation problems.

Furnishes information relative to the value of conservation to many individuals and organizations through correspondence, the press, and lectures.

Pursues a long range development program that insures a permanent and increasingly beneficial service to all local communities.

PEQUOT TRAILS

Vol. XV

Fall 1963

No. 3

Annual Meeting

The meeting convened at 2:40 p.m. with 37 members present and 8 proxies having been received. President Wilson D. I. Domer presided.

The Call to the Meeting was read by the Secretary.

President Domer then welcomed the members to the Meeting and expressed his pleasure in having served for three years as President, calling the experience both rewarding and stimulating. He spoke particularly of the Sanctuary's good fortune in the generosity of its members having resulted in a new Trailside Museum, an excellent residence for its Curator and in the gift of land made by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Perry. He introduced the new Curator to those who had not yet met him and thanked the outgoing trustees for their invaluable assistance. He voiced his optimism in the new year ahead and in the new administration.

The minutes of the 17th Annual Meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer M. D. MacGregor presented a report in mimeographed form which was distributed to the members present. It showed assets of \$71,210 and liabilities of \$8,600. Expenditures for the year were \$17,459, covered by receipts and a modest cash balance. A part of the Treasurer's Report was a proposed budget of \$13,000 for the coming year. The annual audit, he said, was then in progress. The full report, as submitted, was adopted, is attached hereto and is made a part of these minutes.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Kunz, the Curator, was asked to give an interim report on the progress toward improvement of the meadows, borders and ground cover. He stated that the work was progressing slowly because it had been and was still hoped that some Federal and State aid might be forthcoming. He felt that in the next month or so the exact amount of such aid, if any, would be known. Mrs. Cole added that a representative of the Fish and Game Commission would shortly come to the Sanctuary to look over the situation and give some advice as to proper treatment.

Nominating Committee Report

For the Nominating Committee, Mrs. MacGregor, Chairman, presented the following names of Trustees for four-year terms:

Mrs. Robert W. Dixon

Mr. Jared I. Wood

Mrs. James Kleinschmidt

Mr. Joseph S. Harris

Mr. John Lathrop

There were no nominations from the floor and upon proper motion and second, the five trustees were unanimously elected by asking the Secretary to cast one vote for such election.

By-Laws Change

The Call to the Meeting, read by the Secretary at the opening of the session, included a proposal to change the By-Laws to allow for a Family Membership, as follows:

From Article IV, Sec. 1: There shall be the following kinds of memberships:

- a. Regular, Annual dues, \$5.00
- b. Contributing: Annual dues, \$10.00
- c. Sustaining: Annual dues, \$25.00, etc.

to read: Article IV, Sec. 1: There shall be the following kinds of memberships:

- a. Regular: Annual dues, \$5.00
- b. Contributing: Annual dues, \$10.00
- c. Family: Annual dues, \$15.00
- d. Sustaining, Annual dues, \$25.00—and to redesignate the remaining memberships, "Patron," "Life," and "Honorary" as "e," "f" and "g" accordingly.

Upon motion of Mr. Avellar, properly seconded, it was SO VOTED.

Address of the President

Once more it is my pleasure to welcome the membership to the Annual Meeting. I could wish that the attendance might be somewhat larger, but perhaps some of the fault is ours, and for this I wish to apologize. It does seem to me that the members should be advised by letter, rather than by an item in "Trails," no matter how prominently set forth therein; I fear that "Trails" is not read too thoroughly by all members.

However, when the matter of the individual letter was considered, the specter of Limited Finances immediately reared its ugly head and we were left with very little choice.

As to finances, our bank account is not of staggering proportions, it seldom is, but we manage. We have even been fortunate enough to set up a tiny nest-egg of interest-bearing securities, the interest, of course, being minute, but we do have it. Be that as it may, there are many things that we should like to do, both in services to the community and in improvements to the Sanctuary, that we shall have to forego for the present, at least.

In the notice of the Annual Meeting, you will note that we propose to establish a Family Membership. This is all to the good, but I fear it will have little actual effect upon our finances. A great deal more seems to me to be required and I am dropping this thought into your laps, without recommendations, for whatever action you might care to take. In this connection I am happy to report that our membership is well above the six-hundred mark and, with your help, it can continue to grow.

Subsequent to this meeting, a new administration will take over. As for me, the three very pleasant years as your President have been a most rewarding and stimulating experience. I have enjoyed every moment of it and sincerely hope the good fortune I have had will carry over into the next administration.

We are thankful for many things that have occurred over the past several years. Your generosity made it possible for us to construct our lovely Trailside Museum, together with the excellent house for use by the Curator. Last but not least, there is our very own New Area, given us by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey C. Perry; we hope to make greater use of this tract as time goes on.

When Bill Wiley left us last Fall to better his situation by accepting an appointment with the United States Government, and I think it was a most proper move on his part, we were faced with the immediate problem of obtaining his successor. In this I feel we were eminently successful and I sincerely hope our new Curator will be with us for some time to come. The difference in our museum should be apparent to those of you who were here last year. To those who do not already know him, I am happy to introduce our new Curator, Mr. Robert F. Kunz.

While on this matter of people and personnel, I wish to take the opportunity to thank my fellow officers and Trustees for their support and much needed help and guidance. In particular, I would thank Mrs. Barry Dench, Mrs. Richard Harrington, Mrs. C. V. Moore, Mrs. Harvey C. Perry, Mr. Belton Copp, Mrs. Malcolm D. MacGregor, Mr. Lawrence Anderson and Mrs. Donald Cottrell, whose terms as Trustee end with this meeting. Their assistance has been invaluable and I hope there will not be any cessation in their interest. I wish, also, to extend heart-felt thanks to our Dedicated Few who, as usual have knocked themselves out working on the various Sanctuary projects. Without them we simply could not exist.

Now we go into a new year, with new problems and the possibility of new achievements for the general betterment of the Sanctuary. There is much to be done by the new administration and any help on the part of the membership will, I am sure, be greatly appreciated.

And that just about takes care of the President's remarks.

Welcome, again, to the Annual Meeting.

Annual Report of the Treasurer

June 1962 to June 1963

Receipts

	1963	1962
Cash at Washington Trust Co. 6-30-62	\$1,173.56	\$ 2,813.38
Cash at Groton Savings 6-30-62	100.00	10,000.00
Cudd & Co.	200.00	400.00
New Year Dance	2,493.00	2,479.00
Annual Tea	2,340.80	2,156.47
Trading Post Sales	2,152.19	2,712.86
Membership	4,990.00	4,585.00
Bowdenwein Foundation	500.00	450.00
Henry Gardiner Foundation	100.00	100.00
Wimpfheimer Foundation	100.00	250.00
Special Gifts	2,019.38	2,665.00
Interest and Dividends	254.00	480.70
Lectures and Rental	84.50	65.50
Contribution Box	217.00	182.00
L. A. Anderson, 30 day loan	700.00	
Museum Building Fund		586.00
Planting Fund		85.00
Sale of Power Saw		50.00
Total	\$17,459.43	\$30,060.91

Expenditures

Curator's Salary	\$ 3,887.92	4,835.05
Assistant to Curator's Salary	1,367.27	1,634.00
Museum Maintenance	2,172.12	545.49
New Year Dance	675.27	782.43
Annual Tea	404.08	532.14
Postage and Printing	1,404.03	1,175.80
Telephone, Electricity, Fuel Oil	1,190.07	793.69
Trading Post Stack	1,784.33	2,032.18
Taxes	264.10	293.11
Insurance	463.05	523.48
Curator's Residence	2,119.79	13,440.85
Cudd & Co.	1,442.01	770.80
New Museum		833.52
Tools and Equipment		594.81
Cash Washington Trust Co.	185.39	1,173.56
Cash, Groton Savings Bank	100.00	100.00
Total	\$17,459.43	\$30,060.91
	1963	1962

Dance and Tea

New Year Eve Dance, Profit	\$ 1,817.73	\$ 1,696.57
Annual December Tea, Profit	1,936.72	1,624.33

Trading Post

Sales, 1 July, 1962 through 30 June, 1963	2,152.19	2,712.86
Stock on hand, 20 June, 1963	805.20	789.15
	\$ 2,957.39	\$3,502.01
Purchases	1,784.33	2,032.18
Stock and cash on hand, 30 June, 1962	789.15	819.15
	2,573.48	
Profit before taxes	373.91	597.85
State Sales Tax	25.35	20.92
Net Profit	\$ 348.56	576.93

ASSETS

Cash at Washington Trust Company	\$ 185.00
Cash at Groton Savings Bank	100.00
Cash at Trading Post	35.00
25 Shares of duPont Stock	6,250.00
18 Shares of General Motors	1,260.00
1 Share of IBM	460.00
Trading Post Inventory	770.00
Chevrolet Truck	200.00
Tools—mower etc	100.00
Museum Building	25,000.00
Curator's Home	25,000.00
Perry land, 92 acres	7,850.00
Furniture and Fixtures	4,000.00
Total	\$71,210.00

Liabilities

Cudd & Company (8 year 4% loan)	\$ 7,900.00
Anderson (30 day no interest loan)	700.00
Total	\$ 8,600.00

Curator's Report

Mr. Kunz, in his report, stated there had been, during the year, 54 visiting groups consisting of 1,772 persons. Average groups per week, he said, were 1.1. He would like to see that many groups per day. There had been 10 outside lectures given by him to 702 persons. Daily visitors averaged 15, not including group visitations, a total of over 7,000 persons. In addition he said he had done several tape recordings for high schools. He had delivered an anatomy course, carried out the regular schedule of field trips (45) and had done a great deal towards cleaning up the property. The work shed has a new floor, an outstanding exhibit had been arranged at Mystic Seaport upon the occasion of the flower show there, and in general he had maintained the feeding program set up by the former Curator. He mentioned a new ground feeder. He had recently been working on some new plantings at the front of the building. He had treated more than thirty animals. Inside, he had established four new habitat exhibits, some reptile exhibits, a nest exhibit and was working on an anatomy exhibit. He had cross-indexed both the egg collection and nest exhibits; and had been doing what he could to increase our membership. He announced that a Pequot-sepos Bird Survey of the area is underway and he hoped, in time, that the results would be published in a small pamphlet.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. with a call for the newly constituted Board of Trustees to meet immediately.

(Signed) B. MacDonald Steers, Secretary

Fall Field Trips

For your convenience, the trips are repeated in this issue. Complete details were published in the summer issue.

August 31, 7 a.m. Pt. Judith
 September 7, 7 a.m., Barn Island
 September 14, 7 a.m. Napatree Pt.
 September 21, 7 a.m., Bluff Point
 September 28, 7 a.m., Barn Island
 October 5, 7 a.m., Napatree Point
 October 12 and 13, Hawk Mt., Pa.
 October 19, 7 a.m., Harkness Park
 October 26, 7 a.m., Napatree Pt.

NOTICE

The regularly scheduled Sunday Nature Walks now starting from the Trailside Museum at 7 a.m. will continue at this hour until November 3. Starting Sunday, November 3 these walks will begin at 2:30 and continue at this hour through Easter. These winter walks provide opportunities for study of native trees and shrubs in winter conditions as well as work on birds, ferns, and mammals. Walkers may gather around an open fire in the Trailside Museum, following the walk.

Comments of the Incoming President June 30, 1963

TRUSTEES' MEETING

I am very much honored and more than a little scared at following in the footsteps of two such dedicated people as Bill Domer and Margaret MacGregor. It would be difficult to equal Bill's devoted interest in the Sanctuary and his knowledge of wildlife, and impossible for me, at least in the case of fish. As for Margaret, we all know what a hard worker she was and is. When she was president, the Sanctuary was going through a difficult time — under her leadership it survived. Under Bill it forged ahead and made great strides toward what we all want it to be.

I can only say that with the help of the Trustees, this fine slate of officers and the cooperation of our hard-working new Curator, Bob Kunz, I will do my very best to see that this program continues.

Ditch Diggers Anonymous

Anonymous no longer are Mrs. Hugh L. M. Cole, your new president, Mr. Sheridan Colson, trustee, Masters David and Stephen Rusch, members, and yours truly, all of whom are now surely and completely qualified for recognition in any man's (or woman's) ditch. By prodigious, even heroic effort the above closed a ditch that looked to me so huge that I might be better off in the bottom of it than filling it. Five days of blood, sweat, no, no tears but several blisters, were required to lay two pipe lines, one from behind the Museum Building to the Quarry Pond (a drainage pipe) and one from the corner of the Museum Building nearest the furnace room to the Quarry Pond (a water source for our soon-to-be Wild Flower Garden).*

The pipe to water the Wild Flower Garden was donated by Mrs. Cole and a very generous contribution to the entire project was the gift of Mrs. Donald Cottrell. R. K.

* Suggestions and assistance toward making this garden outstanding will be welcomed and appreciated.

The future of your Sanctuary depends on you. Its dedication and service to Conservation becomes more important with each passing year and must continue after you are gone. You can achieve a kind of immortality for it and for yourself if you will remember us in your will. Make yours a more than passing interest.

Binoculars and Why

During the course of the last year at the PSWS, as you will see from the Curator's report, many, many groups have visited us. These groups have varied in age from second graders to old folk. They come to the PSWS for various reasons and with varying degrees of interest. Many of our adult visitors wear the badge of the birder, binoculars, an indispensable item to their avocation. Usually the youngsters, for obvious reasons, do not, and it's that last (do not) that we are interested in. But first, follow me for a moment. Probably at one time or another you have all endured the frustration of forgetting your binoculars, or of thinking "Oh well, I won't see anything going through town anyway, so why bother." If I have made my point, you will understand the frustration, or, in the case of youngsters who have never enjoyed the advantages of magnification, the apathy exhibited for peering at a miniscule warbler fifty yards distant. For purposes of interest and reflection they can't see it. It is my fond hope that you, the members of the PSWS can remedy this situation.

There are three ways in which you can help to open wide the doors of interest for these children. 1. Donate any used but functional binoculars to the Sanctuary. Power is not important but clarity is. 2. Donate your Plaid Stamps. Four power binoculars are available from the Plaid Stamp stores. (4½ books) 3. Donate money for the purchase of inexpensive four power binoculars which are commercially available for about \$6.00.

The binoculars will be used under the supervision of the Curator primarily with the children's groups visiting the Sanctuary. Your donation to this cause could not find a better home. R.F.K.

Look at it this Way

If in the course of one year you purchase \$25.00 worth of goods—gifts, (hospital, Christmas, birthday, etc.), post cards, decorator items for your home, (we have some nice ones) books, (see the new listing) for entertainment or reference, you support the PSWS to the tune of at least 2 additional regular memberships per year. Multiply your individual support times our present local membership and you will get an idea of the good things your support of the Trading Post can bring about for the Sanctuary.

LOOK AGAIN

If as outlined above, you do purchase in the amount of \$25.00 and yours is a regular \$5.00 membership, you have automatically reduced the cost of your membership by 50%. How?

LOOK AGAIN

Tr-AID-ing POST

AID

All members get 10% discount* on all purchases over \$3.00.

AID

PSWS gets financial support.

If we don't have what you want—maybe we should. Send us a smoke signal, and if possible, we will get it for you.

* Discount will apply at all times as indicated **excepting** PSWS Tea and Sale December 6.

Trading Post

There are only two ways at present of increasing your Sanctuary income. One is through membership, and the other is by patronizing the Trading Post.

A 10% discount on purchases of \$3.00 or more will be allowed to all members.

BIRD HOUSES
BIRD FEEDERS

BIRD SEED—

Sunflower and Mixed

STATIONERY and
NOTEPAPER

JEWELRY

BIRD TILES

CHILDREN'S GAMES and TOYS

STUFFED and CARVED ANIMALS and BIRDS

BOOKS:

PETERSON FIELD GUIDE SERIES TO:

EASTERN BIRDS

WESTERN BIRDS

SHELLS

BUTTERFLIES

MAMMALS

ROCKS AND MINERALS

ANIMAL TRACKS

FERNS

TREES AND SHRUBS

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

WILD FLOWERS

AUDUBON WATER and LAND BIRD GUIDES

GOLDEN NATURE GUIDES

BIRD WATCHERS ANTHOLOGY

STALKING THE WILD ASPARAGUS

A TREASURY OF BIRD LORE

A GUIDE TO BIRD FINDING

DISCOVERY (BIRD ANTHOLOGY)

AND OTHER ITEMS

What Is Going on at PSWS

In our exhibits at the PSWS Museum, on the trails (See Fern Trail this issue) and in our talks to visitors, we are attempting three things: (1) a technically accurate presentation, (2) a more than palatable exposure to the varied wonders of nature, and (3) the imparting, particularly to children, of a philosophy and understanding of the overall workings of nature.

We cannot of course be Huxley and the Museum of Natural History combined (or individually for that matter); we can, however, give our members, friends and visitors a delicious sample of what Mother Nature has to offer.

If you haven't visited the Sanctuary recently you will find new reptile and amphibian exhibits (nine), new habitat exhibits (five), a new bird nest exhibit (thirty species), an egg collection exhibit¹ (95 species), several additional mounted specimens, a bird anatomy exhibit (in the making), a revitalized sea animal exhibit, several new wild flower charts and a newly constructed Fern Trail² presenting thirty species of ferns and fern allies (thus far) complete with labels and Cobbs "Field Guide to the Ferns."³ R. F. K.

Come to the Sanctuary, examine the new exhibits, walk the new Fern Trail (before frost) and give me your council.⁴ R. F. K.

¹ Cross indexed with the nest collection and the mounted exhibits.

² The first of several, we hope, highly effective educational trails.

³ This field guide is available for loan to members using the Fern Trail.

⁴ Let me have your criticisms, good, bad, but don't be indifferent.

Let's Advertise

The decal you all received in your letter from the PSWS regarding the "Land Productivity Program," was enclosed for placement on your auto windshield (front, back or side). We hope you will use the decal for this purpose and in so doing project the presence of the PSWS wherever you go by auto. (The best method of application is to wet the windshield, place the decal over the wet area, shiny side away from the glass, press and smooth.)

B. MacDonald Steers

Now that my feet are completely wet, I am even more appreciative of the splendid and dedicated accomplishment of B. MacDonald Steers. The Trustees and Members of the PSWS surely owe Mr. Steers their thanks and a "well done" as editor of the *Pequot Trails* from June 1960 to June 1963. Mr. Steers will, or course, be difficult to follow, but he was kind enough to take me by the hand on the last issue of *Pequot Trails* and to lead me into the waters of the editing business kindly and slowly.

Once again Don, our sincere thanks.
R.F.K.

PSWS Lecture Series

The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary will present a lecture series on nature subjects again this year. The talks will be given on the third Wednesdays of October, November, January, February, March and April, at 8:30 p.m.

October—"Falconry, The Sport of Kings, Past, Present and Future." (live specimens) Curator.

November—"Winter Birds" a motion picture narrated by the author. Mr. Robert Dewire.

January—"Mountain Climbing in the Tetons." Slides narrated by the author, Mr. Laurence Anderson.

The programs for February, March, and April will be announced in your local newspaper.

Projections

Projections, the color slide type, are best shown through a good projector, onto a good screen, from a good projection table. We have the projector, we have the screen, we need the projection table, \$25. HELP!

VISITING GROUPS

Gales Ferry School, 3rd Grade	64*	28 May
Pine Point School	20	5 June
Tower Street School	40*	6 June
Brownies, Troop 20	30*	6 June
Pocasset School	50	9 June
Eastern Point School	40*	14 June
North Stonington Garden Club	50	18 June
Deep River Garden Club	3	19 June
Eastern Point School	35*	20 June
PSWS Annual Meeting	55	30 June
Lantern Hill Day Camp	16*	11 July
Lantern Hill Day Camp	17*	16 July
Lantern Hill Day Camp	13*	17 July
Thames Science	6	19 July
Univ. of Conn. Conservation Work Shop	14	22 July
Univ. of Conn. Conservation Work Shop	14*	23 July
Lantern Hill Day Camp	12*	23 July
Lantern Hill Day Camp	13*	24 July
New London Garden Club	35*	29 July
Denison Society Family Day	150	3 August
Claude Chester School	28	8 August
Seaside Regional Center.....	26	13 August
Lantern Hill Day Camp	10*	15 August
Lantern Hill Day Camp	11*	22 August
Lantern Hill Day Camp	13*	23 August
Annual Nature Conservancy National Meeting	60*	25 August
N. Y. State Conservation Forum Caravan	30	28 August

* Curator Talk (27 groups totaling 855 persons) 855

The figures for the comparable period last year are 16 visiting groups totaling 560 persons. As you can readily see, a substantial increase in our visiting group activities has been achieved, approximately a 60% increase in fact. Although there are no complete and accurate records available of daily visitors (other than groups) for a comparable period last year I feel the daily visitations (other than groups) have enjoyed at least a comparable gain.

Following are the figures for daily visitations (other than groups) so far this year, i.e. from June 30 to August 31 inclusive: 664 children, 573 adults, to-

taling 1237 persons. By adding this figure 1237 to the group total for the same period, June 30 to August 31 inclusive—523, you will get an accurate picture, 1760 or 880 per month, of our present rate of activity in this area.

Visits to the Sanctuary are one of the best ways we have of spreading the Conservation Gospel, (See "What's Going On at the PSWS" this issue) so if you will, encourage people, your everyday contacts, your contacts with Scouting organizations, school organizations, garden clubs, other conservation organizations, to visit the PSWS.

R. F. K.

YOUR SANCTUARY

HOW IT STARTED AND HOW IT GREW

(AUTHOR'S NOTE: On Sunday, August 25, 1963, members of The Nature Conservancy, Inc. were invited to visit the Sanctuary as part of their annual national meeting in New London. At that time your president, at the request of Dr. Richard H. Goodwin, presented a brief history of the Sanctuary, most of which had been previously unknown to her. Thinking that the members as a whole might find it as interesting as she did, the following article has been prepared for your edification.)

In the spring of 1943, following a stimulating talk by Adele Erisman, long a member of the Sanctuary, and presently an honorary member, the Mystic Garden Club conceived the idea of a wildlife sanctuary for southeastern Connecticut.

The Denison Society, a family organization which owned 125 acres of land across the road from the Denison Homestead, was approached and its trustees approved using this land for the purpose, provided a distinct and separate organization could be formed to administer it.

During 1944, therefore, a Sanctuary Committee was formed to consult with experts on the suitability and development of the Denison land, but it was decided not to proceed further until the war should be over. However, during 1944, the Denison Society most generously gave a series of talks to raise money for the preliminary expenses of creating a Sanctuary.

In 1945 the Denison Society at their annual meeting formally voted to approve the idea and to rent the land to a sanctuary organization for 25 years at \$1 a year with an option to renew for another 25 years.

On January 1, 1946, a campaign was started to secure 100 founders who would pledge \$10 each annually for three years. At the same time a corporation was formed and by-laws drawn up in the name of the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.

Many people ask what our name means. Pequot is the Indian tribe that lived hereabouts; "sepos" was their name for a brook. Therefore Pequot-sepos means "the brook of the Pequots."

The first formal organization meeting was held in April of 1946 with pledges already secured from 211 founders and from 111 charter members who agreed to pay \$3 each annually for three years.

With this financial backing the first curator, Thomas P. McElroy, Jr., was chosen in May of that year and the first

annual meeting was held on July 8, 1946.

For the next ten years the Sanctuary went along, functioning in various ways as an educational force in the community and improving its plant. Trails were laid out and cleared, a parking lot was built, and a Trailside Museum and Trading Post were set up in the old barn near the road which the Denison Society allowed the Sanctuary to use as part of the lease of the land.

Bird walks were instituted and the curator was asked to give many lectures on natural history subjects at clubs and schools. During this period, too, **Pequot Trails**, the Sanctuary publication, sent free to members, was started in leaflet form.

In 1956 the presently well-known and well-attended "Bird Ball" was given for the first time on December 31 as a money-raising project, and met with success.

In May of 1957, after more than ten years of service, the curator, Mr. McElroy, resigned to take a position elsewhere. He was succeeded by William Wylie whom most of you knew.

Because then (as now) it was difficult to make ends meet, an annual tea was instituted at the suggestion of Mrs. MacGregor as another means of raising funds additional to membership dues. And both the Tea and Bird Ball became annual events with the generous support of the community.

In September of 1957 **Pequot Trails** was published in its present bound format.

At the Annual Meeting in June 1958 Margaret MacGregor became president and it was during her term of office, in June of 1958, that plans for a new Trailside Museum were first discussed. This was sadly needed because, as the barn was not heated we could not keep the museum and trading post open during the cold months. It was decided to proceed and ground was broken that Fall. A major fund drive was started in January of 1960 and met with a good

response. So much so that by December of that year we were able to hold a combined house-warming in conjunction with our annual Tea and Sale in the new building, even though it was not fully completed. For this building the Sanctuary owes an unpayable debt of gratitude to one of our members, now a trustee—Agustas Peterle. For a year he devoted all his time to the construction of the Museum, assisted by Bill Wylie, with the result that we had to let contracts only for such things as the foundation, plumbing, heating and lighting. All the carpentry, inside and out, was done by these two men with the able help of Mr. Walter Moran, one of our most devoted members and gifted bird-watchers who fortunately is also a good carpenter. If any of you observed the framing while the building was under construction you must realize what a Herculean task these three men performed.

In June of 1960 Mrs. MacGregor was succeeded as president by Mr. Wilson D. I. Derner.

Once the Museum was finished all the trustees heaved a deep breath of relief—but too soon. The quarters for the curator and his family in the Denison Homestead had become inadequate. It was not that the rooms shrank but that the family grew—by this time numbering six. It became obvious that something would have to be done, not only from the curator's point of view but from that of the Denison Society which wished to install a single person as curator of the Homestead.

We were thus under the necessity of again raising funds in order to build a Curator's residence, with the approval of the Denison Society, on the land leased to us.

In January of 1961 plans for this residence were started. The gods help those who help themselves, it is said, and providentially an anonymous benefactor offered to lend the Sanctuary \$10,000 for the construction of this dwelling as a tribute to Mr. M. D. MacGregor, then Treasurer. The money was to be loaned at nominal interest with the promise that as the Sanctuary repaid the debt the donor would match these payments with gifts. This generous offer was accepted and in April, 1961, the building of the Curator's residence was officially approved and work was commenced, again with a more than generous offer on the part of Mr.

Peterle to do the carpentry with Bill Wylie's aid.

May 14, 1961 saw the formal opening of the Museum building.

In July, 1961, the Sanctuary again met with great good fortune. Mr. and Mrs. Harvey C. Perry of Westerly offered our organization a tract of over 93 acres on North Anguilla Road in Stonington as a gift, to be kept wild and unspoiled in perpetuity. This wonderful offer was accepted, so that ever since that time the Sanctuary has owned this lovely tract in fee simple. The land is quite different from the Denison tract in its ecology, being more upland in nature. The construction of Route 95 has made it difficult of access during the past year but fortunately this route does not run through the property and in future years we hope to make greater use of it for bird walks and wildlife study.

In the fall of 1962, shortly after the completion of the new Curator's dwelling, Bill Wylie resigned as curator to take a position with the Federal Fish and Game Division in his native state of West Virginia. We were most fortunate at that time in securing as curator our present incumbent, Robert F. Kunz. You have only to visit the Museum and walk about the grounds to see the many new exhibits he has installed and planted.

Because the Curator must of necessity be away from the Museum a large part of the time, we have been fortunate in securing the services of a former officer and trustee, Mrs. Barry Dench, to man our Trading Post. She began in the summer of 1961, when Bill Wylie was occupied with carpentry, and has continued with one winter interruption, until the present time.

Postscript: Some of the people who have helped during the past years are mentioned above by name. Many, many others have helped us both financially and by the work of their hands. It would be impossible to list them all, nor would they wish it. But our heartfelt thanks go to them all. Without them, we would not exist as a going and growing organization.

For your Sanctuary has been constantly growing—increasing its services to the community and spreading, we hope, the gospel of sensible conservation and love of nature amongst both young and old. It is our hope that it will continue to do so. We are the

(Continued on Page 14)

Resolution on Barn Island Marshes

These resolutions are part of a program being undertaken to have natural areas designated throughout the entire state so that existing wildlife and natural areas will not be lost entirely.

RESOLUTION ON BARN ISLAND MARSHES

WHEREAS the Barn Island Marshes now under the supervision and control of the Connecticut Board of Fisheries and Game are among the best known scientifically studied and recorded marshes on the Northeast Atlantic Coastline, known both nationally and internationally, largely because of the widely known and accepted published reports by Egler and Miller in 1947; and

WHEREAS continuing scientific observation on the Barn Island Marshes is being done by scientific groups from the University of Connecticut and other Colleges and Universities, and no similarly studied or publicly available marshes exist along the entire Connecticut coastline which are publicly owned, and any disturbance of the marshes would cause basic background research work to be lost for all time; and

WHEREAS the maintenance of Connecticut's salt water fin- and shellfish is important for the enjoyment of its residents and the support of its tourist trade, and the State of Connecticut has repeatedly recognized the paramount importance of better knowledge of these fisheries, through such means as support of the University of Connecticut Marine Research Laboratory at Noank, and our salt marshes are the primary nursery for the fisheries of our estuaries and Long Island Sound; and

WHEREAS the Barn Island Marshes were originally acquired for sportsmen of the State and wildlife land cannot support mass recreation without destruction of the natural values for which they were established; and

WHEREAS a Natural Area to serve as a control or check area involving a suitable portion of wildlife lands is fundamental to the concept of wildlife land management and to habitat improvement upon such lands;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the trustees and officers of the Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy hereby record their request to the Connecticut State Board of Fisheries and Game and other appropriate agencies and officials of the State of Connecticut that the Barn Island Marshes be kept as an intact unit without further expansion of any existing human encroachments and that appropriate portions of the Barn Island Marshes be designated as Natural Areas to be kept in their natural undisturbed condition.

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Governor of the State of Connecticut, the Commissioner of the State Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Director of the State Board of Fisheries and Game and other appropriate State of Connecticut agencies and officials.

Editor's Note:

There are dark clouds on the horizon at the Barn Island Game Management Area. The wind whispers of plans to convert part of this State Property into a mass recreation area, a public bathing beach. That "public bathing areas are inadequate" is probably a true statement and it brings to light the very point I am anxious to make. What is adequate today in the field of mass recreation will not be adequate ten or even five years from now. At that time still further demands will be made upon our fast dwindling Natural Areas. Until our population growth is stabilized, there will always be new and increasing demands. It therefore seems obvious that the Conservationist, the Sportsman, the Fisherman, the Naturalist, the Hunter, if they are to survive, must at some time draw a line beyond which they will not retreat. In the case of Barn Island, the time is now.

RESOLUTION TO HAVE CONNECTICUT GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES DESIGNATE NATURAL AREAS

WHEREAS it is increasingly apparent that unless designation of natural areas is accepted and approved as a formal, open, affirmative and public policy by governmental agencies the inevitable pressures and attempts to change existing Natural Areas to high density use areas or to introduce incompatible uses will be much more difficult to resist, and that areas suitable for use as Natural Areas will be increasingly difficult to find and obtain, the designation of Natural Areas must be a signal for all to see and realize that such land may not be considered as available for some other perhaps desirable but inconsistent use;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the trustees and officers of the Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy hereby record their request that the land holdings of all State of Connecticut agencies concerned with natural resources be reviewed at this time with a view to designating Natural Areas for scientific and educational purposes to be kept in their natural, undisturbed condition.

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Park and Forest Commission is hereby commended for its actions in designating Natural Areas such as the tract in Nathan Hale State Forest, the Canaan Mountain Natural Area in the Housatonic State Forest, and in accepting the

Kitchel Wilderness Area in Algonquin State Forest from the donor with natural area restrictions.

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Governor of the State of Connecticut, the Commissioner of the State Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Director of the State Park and Forest Commission and other appropriate State of Connecticut agencies and officials.

EDITOR'S COMMENT

The Connecticut Chapter of Nature Conservancy has joined the growing move to have Wilderness and Natural Areas preserved while they are still available to be preserved. The above resolutions were passed by the Connecticut agencies to designate Natural Areas in their land holdings.

Some proposals have already been aired for using a portion of the Barn Island Game Management Area for a public beach. If such high density population use is permitted even in portions of the area, the value of the entire area for Conservation Recreation will be severely damaged. This is a matter with which the members of PSWS should concern themselves. As individuals each can contact State Officials, present his views and in so doing add his efforts to those already being made to preserve our important remaining Natural Areas.

Birding in the Field

Summer 1963, June 1, August 15

by **Robert Dewire**

Looking back at this summer which has drawn to a close, I find that it has been an especially good one for finding birds—and mosquitoes. Although the mosquitoes seemed worse this year than in the past, the interesting and rare birds made up for the bites acquired. Three conditions are mainly responsible for the good birding this summer: 1. The number and variety of herons to be seen at Barn Island. 2. The number and variety of summering shore birds and early migrants at such areas at Galilee, R. I., and Harkness Park in Waterford. 3. The occasional arrival of an unusual land bird along with our common ones.

Although most of our common birds seemed to have been present in good numbers this summer, the Kingbird, Veery, Indigo Bunting, Goldfinch, and Towhee seemed to be especially numerous. On the other hand the Yellow and Black-billed Cuckoos seemed rather scarce.

The Sanctuary held field trips every Sunday morning at 7:00 a.m. The walks were either held on the Sanctuary grounds or at Barn Island which was very productive this summer. A total of species of birds were seen, and these are listed as follows.

Pied-Billed Grebe
Double-Crested Cormorant
Great Blue Heron
Green Heron
Little Blue Heron

Common Egret
 Snowy Egret
 Black-Crowned Night Heron
 Yellow-Crowned Night Heron
 Least Bittern
 Mute Swan
 Mallard
 Black Duck
 Gadwall
 Baldpate
 Red Breasted Merganser
 Osprey
 American Kestrel
 Bobwhite
 Semi-palmated Plover
 Killdeer
 Spotted Sandpiper
 Greater Yellowlegs
 Lesser Yellowlegs
 Pectoral Sandpiper
 Least Sandpiper
 Dowitcher
 Semi-palmated Plover
 Black-Backed Gull
 Herring Gull
 Common Tern
 Least Tern
 Mourning Dove
 Yellow-Billed Cuckoo
 Black-Billed Cuckoo
 Chimney Swift
 Kingfisher
 Flicker
 Hairy Woodpecker
 Downy Woodpecker
 Kingbird
 Crested Flycatcher
 Tree Swallow
 Bank Swallow
 Barn Swallow
 Purple Martin
 Blue Jay
 Crow
 Chickadee
 White-Breasted Nuthatch
 House Wren
 Long-Billed Marsh Wren
 Catbird
 Brown Thrasher
 Robin
 Wood Thrush
 Veery
 Bluebird
 Cedar Waxwing
 Starling
 White-Eyed Vireo
 Red-Eyed Vireo
 Black and White Warbler
 Blue Winged Warbler
 Yellow Warbler

Myrtle Warbler
 Chestnut-Sided Warbler
 Prairie Warbler
 Ovenbird
 Yellow-Throat
 American Redstart
 House Sparrow
 Meadowlark
 Red-Winged Blackbird
 Baltimore Oriole
 Common Grackle
 Cowbird
 Scarlet Tanager
 Cardinal
 Rose-Breasted Grosbeak
 Purple Finch
 Goldfinch
 Towhee
 Sharp-Tailed Sparrow
 Seaside Sparrow
 Chipping Sparrow
 Song Sparrow

In addition, the following birds were seen by some of our very competent observers and I feel they are important enough to be mentioned also.

Common Loon
 White-Winged Scoter
 Red-Breasted Merganser
 Knot
 White-Rumped Sandpiper
 Dowitcher
 Stilt Sandpiper
 Red-Breasted Nuthatch
 Brown Creeper
 Mockingbird
 Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher
 Loggerhead Shrike
 Golden-Winged Warbler
 Northern Water Thrush
 Grasshopper Sparrow

Your Sanctuary

(Continued from Page 11)

only place of this kind in our area. We feel that our efforts deserve the support of all residents of the area who are interested in our aims.

How much more, then, do we deserve the wholehearted support of our members. We count on you to spread word of our activities, to attend our lecture and bird walks, to patronize our Trading Post, and to secure new members to help carry on the good work. We are sure that you will not fail us.

E. A. C.

IN THIS ISSUE OF "*PEQUOT TRAILS*" THERE ARE FOUR
VERY IMPORTANT ARTICLES WHICH REQUIRE YOUR ACTION
IF THEIR PRINTING IS TO BE WORTH WHILE.

PLEASE READ THEM AGAIN. THANK YOU.

"Binoculars and Why"

"Look at It This Way"

"PSWS LECTURE SERIES"

"RESOLUTION ON BARN ISLAND MARSHES"

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YOU AND MEMBERSHIP IN THE PEQUOT-SEPOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Members, now totaling over 600, reside in eighteen states and the District of Columbia.

Membership is open to everyone. The present membership includes both amateurs and professionals in natural history subjects and many who recognize the Sanctuary's educational influence in community life.

Four members are elected to the Board of Trustees annually to serve for terms of five years each. The Officers of the Sanctuary are elected annually by the Board of Trustees.

BECOME A MEMBER OR GIVE NOW! On the bottom of this page you will find a form for your membership application or contribution. All memberships include a subscription to our quarterly bulletin, *Pequot Trails*, and have the privilege of participation in all scheduled events.

TAKE AN ACTIVE PART! Opportunities will be offered for participation in field trips, Sanctuary visits, committee work and many other activities.

HERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY to affiliate now with an organization actively engaged in the promotion of a worthy community program of conservation education and recreation.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary

Mystic, Connecticut

Date

Please enroll me as a member of the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary for the year ending
, 19..... I enclose payment for the class of membership checked below.

() *Regular:* \$5.00 annually

() *Patron:* \$50.00 annually

() *Contributing:* \$10.00 annually

() *Sustaining:* \$25.00 annually

() *Life:* \$300.00

Signed

M.....

[PLEASE SIGNIFY WHETHER MR., MRS., OR MISS]

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Mystic, Connecticut



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